

Montrose Daily Press, Volume XIX, Number 37, August 17, 1926  – Elsie Lincoln Benedict, Former Montrose Girl, Says Mrs. McPherson Is Persecuted Woman and Innocent [ARTICLE]

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Elsie Lincoln Benedict, Former Montrose Girl, Says Mrs. McPherson Is Persecuted Woman and Innocent

DENVER, Aug. 17.—The flapper with her rolled socks, bare knees, abbreviated diaphanous skirts, boyish bob and mannish airs, is a biological freak that cannot last, and she will soon revert into the Sweet Marie type with Janice Meredith curls and feminine crinolines, in the opinion of Elsie Lincoln Benedict, world-famous lecturer on biology and psychology, who is back in her old home in Denver, where for four years she was a reporter on a Denver paper.

She is the author of eight standard books on biology and has been received at European courts, but she says that the dearest place in the world to her is Montrose, Colo., where she was born and reared and is remembered as Elsie Lincoln Vandegrift.

"The American girl of today is flying in the face of a biological law that cannot be revoked," said Mrs. Benedict, "and that is the immutable law of sex differentiation. From the insects thru the entire range of animal life to the human, that law holds good. It is based on the fact that the strongest and most permanent sex appeal is based on the widest differentiation between the male and the female. Therefore when women become mannish they inevitably lose their sex appeal and in time that will bring its own remedy.

"Within ten years our American girls will revert to the ways of femininity. They will not again wear skirts sweeping the sidewalk, but neither will they think it necessary to display every dimple they have on their rosy knees. They will conceal their charms rather than display them. They will wear Janice Meredith curls and something like the old fashioned crinoline. They will quit cigarettes and petting parties and will forget mannish styles and mannish imitations."

Mrs. Benedict attributes her success in life to her experience as a reporter on a Denver newspaper for four years.

"It taught me to face the world and fear nothing," she said.

"I originated the system of free lectures and paid classes that today is so common all over the world, and

it paid," she went on. "Five members of our regular staff of lecturers will be in Denver Sunday for a five days' vacation on their way east. I am headed for Milwaukee for a course of several weeks, and just finished a long course at Los Angeles, speaking to overflowing audiences. I have the cleverest husband in the world and am very happy.

Mr. and Mrs. Benedict made a two year tour of the world and gained fame on a caravan trip of several hundred miles from the Nile river straight into the heart of the Sahara desert.

Mrs. Benedict is a firm friend of Aimee Semple McPherson and declares the latter is a persecuted woman—entirely innocent of any wrong.

"I know Aimee Semple McPherson to be incapable of any wrong such as suspicion has intimated," she said. "Jealousy, avarice and graft have done all they can to ruin her reputation, but they have not succeeded. Her story still stands and has not been disproved in any particular."

Mrs. Benedict will be in Denver for several days renewing old acquaintances and declared she is delighted to be back in the scenes of her early struggles and triumphs.